

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9612

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 4666

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PORG US MO

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT

REF: A) STATE 204517, B) RABAT 4334

1. AS A FOLLOW-UP TO DEMARCHES MADE PRIOR TO THE DEPARTURE OF THE GOM DELEGATION TO COLOMBO WE HAVE SOUGHT OUT A NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION. THE SEC GEN IN THE MFA ABDELHAKIM IRAQUI, A DELEGATION MEMBER, EXPRESSED THE VIEW OFT-HEARD HERE THAT THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT WAS STILL IN DANGER OF LOSING SIGHT OF ITS PRINCIPLES. HE WONDERED ALOUD WHERE THE MOVEMENT WOULD BE BY THE TIME IT REACHED HAVANA NEXT YEAR, A VENUE ABOUT WHICH HE CLEARLY HAD RESERVATIONS. IRAQUI PRAISED "STATESMEN" SUCH AS TITO, GANDHI AND SENGHOR FOR THEIR EFFORTS AND LIMITED SUCCESS IN KEEPING THE COLOMBO CONFERENCE WITHIN THE SPHERE OF TRUE NON-ALIGNMENT. HE ALSO SINGLED OUT FOR SPECIAL PRAISE THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA, AND IN PARTICULAR MRS. BANDARANAIKE, FOR STICKING TO THE HIGH ROAD THROUGHOUT, AND ESPECIALLY THE INITIAL DRAFT CONFERENCE DECLARATION, WHICH HE TERMED BALANCED AND REASONABLE.

2. ON THE QUESTION OF KOREA, IRAQUI SAID THAT THE MOROCCANS HAD SPOKEN UP IN THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND HAD ALSO
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ENTERED RESERVATIONS ON THE FINAL DECLARATION. OTHER DELEGATION

MEMBERS HAVE TOLD US WITH VISIBLE PRIDE THAT THE MOROCCANS WERE SO OUTSPOKEN ON KOREA IN COMMITTEES THAT A NORTH KOREAN CONTINGENT CALLED ON MEMBERS OF THE MOROCCAN DELEGATION FOR A "VERY ACTIVE" EXCHANGE. IN ADDITION TO THE GOM'S RESERVATION ON THE KOREAN RESOLUTION, IRAQUI SAID THAT MOROCCAN RESERVATIONS WERE ALSO ENTERED ON LANGUAGE IN THE RESOLUTIONS DEALING WITH PUERTO RICO, TIMOR AND FRANCE AND HE PRODUCED A TELEGRAM WHICH THE GOM HAD ADDRESSED TO CONFERENCE AUTHORITIES IN COLOMBO "CONFIRMING" MOROCCO'S RESERVATIONS ON THOSE QUESTIONS.

3. ON THE SUBJECT OF PUERTO RICO IRAQUI SIMPLY REMARKED THAT A RESOLUTION HAD BEEN ENTERED. HE DID NOT SPECIFICALLY STATE WHETHER MOROCCO HAD SPOKEN UP BUT THE THRUST OF HIS REMARKS INDICATED THAT IT PROBABLY HAD NOT. WE WILL ATTEMPT TO CLARIFY THIS POINT.

4. COMMENT: IN ALL WE FEEL THAT THE GOM CAME ACROSS QUITE WELL ON MATTERS WE HAD SIGNALLED AS BEING OF IMPORTANCE TO US. IN THE CASE OF KOREA IT PROBABLY DIDN'T COST THEM MUCH, FOR THEY WERE FURIOUS WITH THE DPRK FOR ITS RECOGNITION OF THE SHARAN DEMOCRATIC ARAB REPUBLIC. THEIR RESERVATION ON THE TIMOR RESOLUTION MUST ALSO BE SEEN THROUGH THEIR SAHARA PRISM. HOWEVER, THEIR RESERVATION ON THE ANTI-FRENCH RESOLUTION WOULD SEEM TO FALL MORE INTO THE CATEGORY OF THE PUERTO RICO RESOLUTION, BOTH OF WHICH WERE CLEARLY DESIGNED TO PLEASE FRIENDS.

5. WE SEE AS A POSITIVE FACTOR THIS NEW GOM WILLINGNESS TO ENTER RESERVATIONS ON ITEMS WITH WHICH THEY DO NOT AGREE. WE WILL CONTINUE TO COURAGE IT IN THE FUTURE. GIVEN THE GOM'S LINGERING SUSPICION ABOUT THE NAM AND ESPECIALLY THE VENUE OF NEXT YEAR'S CONFERENCE, WE MAY BE ABLE TO OBTAIN EVEN MORE COOPERATION FROM THE GOM WITHIN THE NAM (AND IN OTHER FORA) ON MATTERS OF INTEREST TO US.

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